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Newburn Urban District Council
(County of Northumberland)

ANNUAL
REPORT

of

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1953



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Health Committee Members

Chairman :

Councillor JOSEPH WILLIAM BAIN

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor JOSEPH WILLIAM LEA

Councillor Mrs. DOROTHY JANE HALL

„ Mrs. ETHEL HIGGINS

„ JOHN CROSTHWAITE PATTERSON

„ THOMAS KILLEN

Officers of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health :

MADGE HOPPER, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health :

J. T. W. ROBSON, M.B., B.S.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN CORNEY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN HATTON, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk :

Mrs. L. PIGG (Resigned September, 1953)

Miss R. SMITH (Appointed November, 1953)

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended December 31st, 1953

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Newburn Urban District Council.*

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work of your district for the year ended December 31st, 1953.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION.

There was a decrease of 30 in the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population from 21,820 in 1952 to 21,790 in 1953.

BIRTH RATE.

In 1953, the total number of births showed a slight increase to 347 from 343 in 1952. The birth rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) was 15·6 per 1,000 population, compared with the rate of 15·5 for the country generally.

The rate (uncorrected) for the district was 15·9 in 1953 and 15·7 in 1952.

The number of illegitimate births in 1953 was 12, in 1952 it was six.

There were seven still-births in 1953, compared with 13 in 1952 and 14 in 1951, giving a rate of 0·32 per 1,000 population in 1953, 0·59 in 1952, and 0·64 in 1951.

The still-birth rate for England and Wales was 0·35 per 1,000 population in 1953.

GENERAL DEATH RATE.

From January 1st, 1953, owing to a change in the Registrar General's method of transferring deaths occurring in institutions for the chronic sick, deaths taking place at the Lemington Hospital were no longer transferable, but were assigned to this district.

In 1953, the total number of deaths during the year was 240, of which 25 took place in the hospital.

The number of deaths (other than institutional) in 1953 was therefore 215, compared with the total of 219 in 1952.

The death rate for the whole of the district (corrected for age and sex distribution) was 12·2 per 1,000 population, compared with 11·4 per 1,000 population for the country generally.

Excluding the deaths in the hospital, the rate for the district was 9·9 per 1,000 population ; in 1952 it was 10·03.

NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION.

The number of births in excess of deaths (other than those in the hospital) was 132, compared with 124 in 1952 and 157 in 1951.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The death rate of all infants under one year of age was 43·2 per 1,000 births in 1953. The rate for England and Wales in 1953 was 26·8 per 1,000 births.

There were 15 deaths on infants under one year in the Urban District ; whereas in 1952 there were 10 deaths, and 13 deaths in 1951.

The infant mortality rate in 1952 was 29·1 per 1,000 births.

The 1953 rate is the highest one in the district since 1950, when it was 48·7 per 1,000 live births.

Of the 15 infant deaths in 1953, five had “ prematurity ” as a primary or secondary cause, compared with two in 1952.

Infant deaths from respiratory causes, chiefly broncho-pneumonia, remained at the level of four in both years.

Deaths, with congenital defects as a primary or secondary cause, numbered two in both 1953 and 1952.

Asphyxia as a cause of infant death rose to three in 1953 from one in 1952.

The number of neo-natal deaths (i.e. deaths of infants under four weeks of age) increased to nine in 1953 from six in both 1952 and 1951.

The increase was mainly in the number of deaths from prematurity and asphyxia occurring within a few hours of birth. Six of these took place in the first 24 hours of life.

Although the introduction and use of the antibiotic and sulphonamide drugs have reduced the infant mortality rate to a very great extent indeed, aided by the increasingly meticulous care of premature infants, further work in ante-natal care, especially research into the causes of congenital defects, is still required.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No death attributable to pregnancy and childbirth was registered in 1953 as against one in 1952.

The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales in 1953 was 0·76 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

The total number of deaths from "heart and circulatory diseases" was 88 in 1953, but 13 of these occurred in the Lemington Hospital.

Deaths (other than institutional) from cardiac diseases generally therefore showed a slight decrease to 75 in 1953, from 87 in 1952, and 86 in 1951.

In 1953, deaths registered as due to "intra-cranial vascular lesions" rose to 37 (four of these occurred in the hospital), from 26 in 1952, and 22 in 1951.

The rise in the number of deaths from "malignant neoplasm" observed in 1952 continued during 1953, there being 43 (three of these deaths occurred in the hospital) in 1953, 42 in 1952, and 22 in 1951.

There was an increase in the number of deaths from "malignant neoplasm of the stomach" to 14 in 1953, from 9 in 1952. Those from "malignant neoplasm of the lung, bronchus" decreased by five, while those "of other sites" showed little change.

Deaths registered as due to respiratory diseases (other than tuberculosis) increased to 23 in 1953 from 14 in 1952. Of the deaths from respiratory diseases in 1953, three occurred in the hospital from pneumonia.

The increase in the number of deaths from respiratory diseases was due to a rise in those registered as due to pneumonia and to "other respiratory diseases." Deaths from influenza numbered two in 1953, one in 1952, and seven in 1951.

No death, due to "ulcer of the stomach and duodenum," was registered in 1953, whereas in 1952 there were two, and in 1951 five deaths from this cause.

Deaths from "motor vehicle accidents" unfortunately increased to four in 1953, compared with one fatal motor accident in each of the preceding years. Three of these deaths were due to skull injuries on being knocked down by a motor vehicle, a lorry, van, and car, respectively; two were elderly people. The other road accident was due to a motor cycle colliding with level crossing gates.

The number of deaths caused by "all other accidents" was seven in 1953, as in 1952. In 1951 there was only one death caused by an accident (other than motor).

The causes of six of these seven deaths in 1953 were a pit accident, electrocution by lighting, fall and fracture due to being knocked down by a strong wind, fall and fracture in an old man of 83 years, shock and manual strangulation, carbon monoxide poisoning due to a gas-fire being back-lit and the chimney blocked.

There was a very welcome decline in the number of deaths from "suicide" from six in 1952 to one in 1953.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The mortality rate for all forms of the disease showed a marked decline to 0.04 per 1,000 population in 1953, from 0.37 per 1,000 population in 1952, and 0.27 in 1951. This mortality rate for tuberculosis in 1953 is the lowest yet recorded for the Urban District.

The mortality rate for England and Wales was 0·20 per 1,000 population in 1953.

One death only was registered in 1953 from pulmonary tuberculosis, and no death from the non-pulmonary form. In 1952 eight deaths were registered, six from pulmonary and two from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The one death in 1953 from this cause is a very great improvement on the number of deaths in the previous years. Ten years ago there were 17 deaths from tuberculosis registered.

The present national trend of a decline in mortality was fully reflected in this district in 1953, and shows the very great value of the newer methods of treatment and earlier diagnosis.

The total number of primary notifications of all forms of the disease showed a marked decline to 30 (24 pulmonary and six non-pulmonary) in 1953 from 41 (38 pulmonary and three non-pulmonary) in 1952, 45 in 1951, and 41 in 1950.

This very welcome decrease in the number of new notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis was chiefly noticeable in the 25 to 35 years of age group, especially in females. New notifications in this group dropped to five (four males and one female) in 1953 from 12 in 1952.

The number of new notifications of the non-pulmonary forms of the disease slightly increased to six in 1953 from three in 1952. There was a slight rise in incidence in the older female age groups.

During 1953 there were 18 inward transfers of tuberculosis into the district. In 1952 there were none. The 18 inward transfers included 17 pulmonary tuberculosis (six males and 11 females) and one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis (female).

Nine cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and the one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were inwardly transferred from the City of Newcastle to houses built by the Corporation within the Newburn district.

At December 31st, 1953, 391 houses had been built by the Corporation in this district.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mobile Unit of the Miniature Mass Radiography Service of the Regional Hospital Board visited the district between September 7th to 28th, 1953.

The Unit was sited at Westerhope, Newburn, Throckley, and West Denton, in addition to Lemington as on previous visits.

A total of 1,288 people attended the Unit, compared with a total of 1,135 in 1950. As this latter figure included a visit to one of the works in the district, the attendance in 1953 showed an improvement in numbers.

One hundred and twelve, or 8·7 per cent., people were recalled for large films ; of these, 11, or 0·8 per cent., were referred to the chest clinic or hospital for further investigation. This was a lower percentage than in 1950, when 18 people were referred for further investigation, a percentage of 1·6.

Figures relating to the visit of the Mobile Mass X-ray, Unit 1a, to the Newburn area between September 7th and 28th, 1953 :—

| | | | | | | Number Attending Unit |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|--------------------------|
| Westerhope | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 349 |
| Newburn | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 208 |
| Throckley | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 308 |
| West Denton | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 141 |
| Lemington | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 282 |
| Total | | | | | | <u>1,288</u> |

ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 305, compared with 578 in 1952 and 759 in 1951.

The incidence of scarlet fever, having shown a slight rise during the past few years, declined considerably in 1953, 21 cases being notified in that year and 52 in 1952. The disease was generally of a very mild type.

Whooping cough also showed a decline in incidence in 1953, there being 19 cases notified, compared with 71 in 1952 and 212 in 1951.

Two hundred and twelve cases of measles were notified during the year, a slightly less number than in 1952, when 277 were notified.

The previous year of 1951 was a "peak" year, during which 455 cases of measles occurred.

For the fifth year in succession, there was no case of diphtheria. Attention is drawn to the table in the statistical section of the report, which shows the dramatically lessening incidence in the district, coincident with the rise of the immunisation figures.

This is consistent with the situation throughout the country generally.

Two cases of acute poliomyelitis occurred, one in July and one in November. Both cases were of young adults of 25 and 28 years respectively. They were admitted to hospital and both made good recoveries. There was slight residual paralysis in one case.

Notifications of pneumonia numbered 31 in 1953, 29 in 1952, and 37 in 1951.

SONNE DYSENTERY.

There was a marked decrease in the number of notifications of dysentery in 1953. Seventeen cases were notified during the year, 11 of them occurring in May. The remainder were sporadic cases of young children under five years. Except in the cases in May, which involved three households, the infection was confined to single households and no outside spread of the disease took place.

In 1952, 137 cases of Sonne dysentery were notified, the majority between January and March that year.

FOOD POISONING.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year, compared with eight in 1952 and six in 1951.

PARATYPHOID.

As a result of bacteriological examination of stool specimens for Sonne dysentery, it was found that one case, a girl of 19 years of age, was excreting paratyphoid B. bacilli after becoming clear of Sonne dysentery.

She was given treatment as a symptomless carrier and remained positive for some time.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Immunisation is carried out at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres (children 0 to 5 years), at the schools (children 5 to 15 years), and by the General Practitioners of the district.

At December 31st, 1953, 90 per cent. of the total child population had been immunised at some time during their lives, compared with 86 per cent. in 1952, and 83 per cent. in 1951.

The percentage of immunised children (0 to 5 years) was 73·6 per cent. in 1953, having risen from 65 per cent. in 1952 and 61 per cent. in 1951.

The percentage of immunised children (5 to 15 years) was 98 per cent. in 1953, as in 1952 and 1951.

During the year, a total of 465 children (397, 0 to 5 years, and 68, 5 to 15 years) received a primary course of immunisation, compared with a total of 395 children (320, 0 to 5 years, and 75, 5 to 15 years) in 1952.

Four hundred and sixteen children received a reinforcing injection in 1953 and 485 in 1952.

The Ministry of Health has stressed the importance of keeping the immunity of children up to a high level, and a return has now been made calculating the percentage of children in each age group who have had a course of immunisation within the last five years.

This gives the immunity index for the age group :—

At the end of 1953 the immunity index for children under one year of age was 21 per cent., children (1 to 4 years) 86 per cent., children (5 to 15 years) 64 per cent.

The total immunity index for children under 15 years was 67 per cent.

In interpreting the index it will have to be borne in mind that of children under one year at the end of the year, only one-third will have attained the age of eight months (when immunisations are normally given) and that, even if all this group aged eight months and over were immunised, the index for them would only be 33 per cent.

The dramatic fall in both incidence and number of deaths from diphtheria in the past 10 years has amply justified the importance of immunisation against diphtheria and its reinforcing at intervals both before and during the school life of a child.

In 1944, for the country generally the number of corrected notifications of the disease was 23,199, and the number of deaths 934. In 1953, the provisional figures were: number of corrected notifications 240; number of deaths, 24.

WHOOPING COUGH PROPHYLAXIS.

Forty-four children received a course of injections with whooping cough vaccine, and 34 a course of injections of combined whooping cough and diphtheria prophylactic.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

In 1953, there were 127 primary vaccinations and 24 revaccinations, compared with 78 primary and 15 revaccinations in 1952.

This showed a slight increase in vaccinations last year, but the number is still extremely low and means that a large proportion of the population would be at risk should a case of the disease, probably imported, arise.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This service, under the control of the Northumberland County Council, operates with a driver-supervisor, and six drivers with four ambulances and one sitting car.

During the year, the ambulances made 3,366 journeys, carried 13,394 patients, of whom 1,470 were stretcher cases and 764 accident and emergency cases, and did a total of 93,926 miles.

On August 22nd, 1953, the new ambulance station at Throckley was officially opened and the service transferred from the premises at Newburn.

The Ponteland ambulance was removed from Ponteland to the Throckley station on July 28th, 1953, and since that date the service for the southern part of the Castle Ward district has operated from the Throckley station.

The Throckley station now covers the Urban District and adjacent parts of the South Area, including the southern part of Castle Ward and and works in conjunction with the Wideopen and Prudhoe stations.

HOME HELP SERVICE

During the year, 167 cases resident in the Urban District were served with home helps for varying periods. These cases included 30 of illness, 113 aged and infirm people, 12 confinements (two following operation and discharge from hospital), five blind and three tubercular patients, and two households of motherless young children.

The total number of cases served increased from 158 in 1952, and the number of aged and infirm cases rose from 79 in 1952 to 113 in 1953.

HOSPITALS

There is one hospital in the district, the Lemington Hospital, which admits aged chronic patients. The hospital is controlled by the Regional Hospital Board.

Patients from this area are admitted to hospitals of the Newcastle and Hexham groups of hospitals, and cases of infectious diseases are admitted to Walker Gate Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY.

This service is administered by the Northumberland County Council. Five nurse/midwives are resident in the district, two at Throckley, two at Lemington, and one at Westerhope.

CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

In February, 1953, responsibility for the care and after-care of persons suffering from tuberculosis was transferred to the Area Health Sub-Committees of the County Council.

The Newburn and Prudhoe Care and After-care Sub-Committee, comprising 15 members (eight Councillors and seven voluntary members), was formed in April, 1953, in succession to the former Newburn and Castle Ward Tuberculosis After-care Sub-Committee.

Meetings of this Committee are held at two-monthly intervals.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

This service is administered by the Northumberland County Council. There are four Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the district, as follows :—

The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, Mayfield Avenue, Throckley.

The West Denton Association Hall, Middle Gate, West Denton.

The Methodist School Hall, Algernon Road, Lemington.

“ Lindisfarne,” Stamfordham Road, Westerhope.

There are regular sessions for babies and children, expectant mothers, and dental treatment.

HOUSING.

At the end of 1953 there were 1,259 applicants for Council houses, 664 sub-tenants, 417 tenants, and 178 aged persons.

During the year, 57 houses had been built by this Council and 15 privately. In addition, 391 houses were built in this district by another Authority.

The total number of houses built by this Council since 1945 to December, 1953, was 875.

Thirteen applicants with a case history of tuberculosis were rehoused during 1953, as against six in 1952, and five are on the approved list for early rehousing.

In spite of the good progress made by the Council in building new houses during the past few years, the housing problem remains acute.

The conditions under which the occupants of condemned property are living gives cause for concern.

A list of properties requiring to be dealt with under Clearance Area procedure is shown in the Sanitary Officer's section of the report, and it is to be hoped that the rate of rehousing the occupants of the worst of these houses can be considerably increased.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Burial or Cremation of the Dead—Section 50.—There were three burials under this section of the Act during the year, two adults and one still-born baby.

Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention.—Section 47.—Investigations were made in four cases, but no formal action was necessary under this section of the Act during the year.

The services of a home help were utilised in one case, prior to removal to a Home by the County Welfare Department, who also arranged for the removal to a Home of a second case.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938—SECTION 15 (Bye-laws).

Bye-laws under this section were formally adopted by the Council on July 7th, 1950, as previously reported. Particular attention is paid to their enforcement during regular visits made to all food premises by the Sanitary Officers.

No statutory action was necessary.

In co-operation with the management of a firm of grocers, it was arranged that one of their employees known to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis should be transferred from food handling to clerical work.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

The details under this section have been compiled by Mr. Corney, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council's Health Committee for the great interest they have shown in the work of my department, and to the Senior Sanitary Officer and the staffs of the Health and other departments for the assistance afforded me throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. HOPPER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistical Summary and Social Conditions

Particulars of District.

| | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|----------|
| Area (in acres) | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4,649 |
| Registrar General's estimated population | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 21,790 |
| Number of inhabited houses, according to rate book | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 6,717 |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £495 |
| Rateable Value | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | £115,498 |

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

| | | | | MALES | FEMALES | TOTAL |
|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|-------|---------|-------|
| Live Births (legitimate) | .... | .... | .... | 172 | 163 | 335 |
| „ „ (illegitimate) | .... | .... | .... | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| Still-births | .... | .... | .... | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Deaths | .... | .... | .... | 129 | 111 | 240 |
| Birth rate per 1,000 population | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 15.9 |
| Still-birth rate per 1,000 population | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 0.32 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 11.01 |

Death rate of Infants under 1 year.

| | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|-------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births | .... | .... | .... | .... | 43.2 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | .... | .... | .... | .... | 38.8 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | .... | .... | .... | .... | 166.6 |

Deaths from

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|----|
| Cancer (all ages) | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 43 |
| Measles (all ages) | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | — |
| Whooping Cough (all ages) | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | — |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | — |

Causes of Death in the Newburn Area, 1953.

(Registrar General's Return)

Figures in parentheses indicate deaths in the Lemington Hospital

| | Males | Females | Total |
|---|-------|---------|-------|
| ALL CAUSES | 129 | 111 | 240 |
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory | 1 | .. | 1 |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other | .. | .. | .. |
| 3. Syphilitic disease | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 4. Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. |
| 5. Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. |
| 6. Meningococcal infections | .. | .. | .. |
| 7. Acute Poliomyelitis | .. | .. | .. |
| 8. Measles | .. | .. | .. |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | .. | .. | .. |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | .. | 2 | 2 |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | 14 | 6(3) | 20(3) |
| 15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 16. Diabetes | 2(1) | .. | 2(1) |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 19(1) | 18(3) | 37(4) |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 21 | 17(5) | 38(5) |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 20. Other heart disease | 14(1) | 23(7) | 37(8) |
| 21. Other circulatory disease | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| 22. Influenza | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 23. Pneumonia | 3 | 6(3) | 9(3) |
| 24. Bronchitis | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | .. | .. | .. |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhœa | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis | 1 | .. | 1 |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | 3 | .. | 3 |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | .. | .. | .. |
| 31. Congenital malformations | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 10 | 10(1) | 20(1) |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | 4 | .. | 4 |
| 34. All other accidents | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| 35. Suicide | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war | .. | .. | .. |

BIRTH AND DEATH RATE.

| BIRTHS | | | DEATHS | | |
|------------|---------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|--|
| Year | Newborn | England and Wales | Newborn | England and Wales | |
| 1928 | 19.41 | — | 11.78 | — | |
| 1929 | 15.58 | 16.9 | 10.96 | 13.4 | |
| 1930 | 16.91 | 16.9 | 10.57 | 11.4 | |
| 1931 | 16.78 | 16.4 | 12.17 | 12.3 | |
| 1932 | 15.48 | 15.9 | 11.44 | 12.0 | |
| 1933 | 16.92 | 15.0 | 12.96 | 12.3 | |
| 1934 | 15.03 | 15.4 | 12.85 | 11.8 | |
| 1935 | 17.69 | 15.3 | 10.24 | 12.1 | |
| 1936 | 16.20 | 15.4 | 11.27 | 12.1 | |
| 1937 | 15.83 | 15.5 | 10.46 | 12.4 | |
| 1938 | 17.19 | 15.7 | 11.56 | 11.6 | |
| 1939 | 16.75 | 15.5 | 12.46 | 12.1 | |
| 1940 | 15.27 | 15.1 | 12.24 | 14.3 | |
| 1941 | 17.22 | 15.7 | 14.24 | 11.6 | |
| 1942 | 20.07 | 16.3 | 12.27 | 11.6 | |
| 1943 | 19.85 | 17.0 | 12.5 | 12.1 | |
| 1944 | 21.29 | 18.1 | 10.46 | 11.6 | |
| 1945 | 19.69 | 16.5 | 12.83 | 11.4 | |
| 1946 | 21.14 | 19.6 | 11.43 | 11.5 | |
| 1947 | 23.27 | 21.0 | 10.9 | 12.0 | |
| 1948 | 19.62 | 18.3 | 11.2 | 10.8 | |
| 1949 | 18.11 | 16.7 | 11.32 | 11.7 | |
| 1950 | 17.9 | 15.8 | 12.9 | 11.6 | |
| 1951 | 17.2 | 15.5 | 10.05 | 12.5 | |
| 1952 | 15.7 | 15.3 | 10.03 | 11.3 | |
| 1953 | 15.9 | 15.5 | 11.01 | 11.4 | |

INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

| Year | Newborn | England and Wales |
|------------|---------|-------------------|
| 1938 | 57.0 | 53.0 |
| 1939 | 77.84 | 50.0 |
| 1940 | 42.48 | 55.0 |
| 1941 | 90.6 | 59.0 |
| 1942 | 71.61 | 49.0 |
| 1943 | 49.84 | 49.0 |
| 1944 | 56.51 | 46.0 |
| 1945 | 48.52 | 46.0 |
| 1946 | 53.63 | 43.0 |
| 1947 | 43.48 | 41.0 |
| 1948 | 28.64 | 34.0 |
| 1949 | 30.8 | 32.0 |
| 1950 | 48.7 | 29.8 |
| 1951 | 34.5 | 29.6 |
| 1952 | 29.1 | 27.6 |
| 1953 | 43.2 | 26.8 |

INFANT MORTALITY, 1953.—15 DEATHS.

Neo-natal Deaths :

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|
| Prematurity | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 days |
| Prematurity | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 day |
| Prematurity | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 day |
| Prematurity | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 day |
| Prematurity | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 hours |
| Asphyxia .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 hours |
| Asphyxia .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 hours |
| Asphyxia .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 day |
| Congenital defects | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 week |

Deaths Between One Month and First Year of Life :

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----------|
| Broncho-pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 months |
| Broncho-pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 months |
| Broncho-pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 month |
| Broncho-pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 months |
| Congenital defects | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 months |
| Congenital defects | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 months |

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—YEAR 1953
Number of Cases—Civilians.

| DISEASE | 0— | | 1— | | 3— | | 5— | | 10— | | 15— | | 25 and over | | Age Un- known | | TOTAL | | Hos- pital | Deaths |
|------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-------------|-----|------------------|----|-------|-----|---------------|--------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scarlet Fever .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 | 14 | .. | .. |
| Whooping Cough .. | 2 | .. | 5 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 | 7 | .. | .. |
| Measles .. | 6 | 5 | 30 | 21 | 39 | 45 | 31 | 28 | 3 | 2 | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | 110 | 102 | .. | .. |
| Acute Poliomyelitis .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1P | 1NP | .. | .. | 1P | .. | .. | .. |
| Diphtheria .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Polioencephalitis .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

| DISEASE | 0— | | 5— | | 15— | | 45— | | 65 and over | | Age Un- known | | TOTAL | | Deaths | |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-------------|----|------------------|----|-------|----|--------|----|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pneumonia .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Dysentery (sonne) .. | 2 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 | 12 | .. | .. |
| Smallpox .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Acute Encephalitis Lethargica .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Paratyphoid .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Erysipelas .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Cerebro Spinal Fever .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 3 | .. | .. |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Typhoid Fever .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Malaria .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Puerperal Fever .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Food Poisoning .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

P. denotes Paralytic. N.P. denotes Non-paralytic.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

Appended is a summary of Bacteriological Reports received from the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle General Hospital, on specimens submitted by local medical practitioners and by the Public Health Department.

| | POSITIVE | NEGATIVE |
|--|----------|----------|
| Sputum for Tuberculosis | 1 | 11 |
| Fæces specimens for Salmonella organisms.... | 30 | 3 |
| Fæces specimens for Sonne Dysentery | 57 | 96 |
| Urine for coliform organisms | 3 | 4 |
| Urine for streptococci | 1 | — |
| Urine for Acid fast bacilli | 1 | 1 |
| Throat swab for Hæmolytic streptococci | 8 | 14 |
| Throat swab for Diphtheria | — | 17 |
| Throat swab for Vicent's Angina organisms.... | — | 7 |
| Nasal swab for H. Pertussis | 5 | 10 |
| Swab-ear discharge for coliform organisms.... | 2 | — |
| C.S. fluid for meningococci | 1 | — |
| Swab from Black Patch for micrococci | 1 | — |
| Portion of large and small bowel for pathogens | — | 1 |
| Mussels for organisms | 5 | 3 |
| Meat Pies for organisms | 3 | 6 |
| Dried milk for organisms | — | 1 |

FOOD POISONING RETURN, 1953.

There was no case of food poisoning notified in 1953.

Outbreaks due to identified agents :

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Total outbreaks Nil | Total cases Nil |
|--------------------------|----------------------|

Outbreaks due to :

| | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Chemical poisons | Nil |
| (b) Salmonella organisms | Nil |
| (c) Staphylococci (including toxin) | Nil |
| (d) Cl. botulinum | Nil |
| (e) Other bacteria | Nil |

Outbreaks of undiscovered cause :

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Total outbreaks Nil | Total cases Nil |
|--------------------------|----------------------|

Single cases :

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------|
| AGENT IDENTIFIED | UNKNOWN CAUSE | TOTAL |
| Nil | Nil | Nil |

DIPHTHERIA INCIDENCE AND DEATHS AND DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

| YEAR | Number of Cases of Diphtheria | Number of Deaths | Number of Children Immunised (given for years 1935-43). Later years expressed as per- centage immunised of total child population |
|------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1935 | 28 | .... | 32 |
| 1936 | 22 | 4 | 182 |
| 1937 | 20 | .... | 209 |
| 1938 | 56 | 7 | 414 |
| 1939 | 5 | .... | 422 |
| 1940 | 6 | .... | 439 |
| 1941 | 43 | 3 | 1148 |
| 1942 | 49 | 2 | 2554 |
| 1943 | 104 | 3 | 3035 |
| 1944 | 118 | 6 | 65 per cent. |
| 1945 | 21 | 2 | 80 per cent. |
| 1946 | 11 | .... | 82 per cent. |
| 1947 | 9 | .... | 83 per cent. |
| 1948 | 2 | .... | 83 per cent. |
| 1949 | .... | .... | 84 per cent. |
| 1950 | .... | .... | 84 per cent. |
| 1951 | .... | .... | 83 per cent. |
| 1952 | .... | .... | 86 per cent. |
| 1953 | .... | .... | 90 per cent. |

TUBERCULOSIS

Figures in parentheses indicate inward transfers from other Districts

| AGE PERIODS | | | NEW CASES NOTIFIED | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------|--------------------|------|---------------|-----|-----------|-----|---------------|----|
| | | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
| | | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 1-5 years | ... | 1(1) | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 5-15 | ... | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 15-25 | ... | 6(2) | 13(8) | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 25-35 | ... | 7(3) | 3(2) | ... | 2(1) | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 35-45 | ... | 2 | 3(1) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 45-55 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | |
| 55-65 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 65 years and over | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Age Unknown | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| TOTAL | ... | 21(6) | 20(11) | 3 | 4(1) | 1 | ... | ... | ... | |
| | | 41(17) | | 7(1) | | 1 | | ... | | |
| | | 48(18) | | | | 1 | | | | |

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

| YEAR | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | TOTAL |
|----------|-----------|---------------|-------|
| 1939.... | 15 | 2 | 17 |
| 1940.... | 11 | 5 | 16 |
| 1941.... | 13 | 4 | 17 |
| 1942.... | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| 1943.... | 14 | 3 | 17 |
| 1944.... | 12 | 1 | 13 |
| 1945.... | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| 1946.... | 12 | 4 | 16 |
| 1947.... | 15 | 2 | 17 |
| 1948.... | 12 | 2 | 14 |
| 1949.... | 9 | 1 | 10 |
| 1950.... | 9 | 1 | 10 |
| 1951.... | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 1952.... | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 1953.... | 1 | .... | 1 |

TABLE OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

| YEAR | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | TOTAL |
|----------|-----------|----|---------------|----|-------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| 1939.... | 9 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 22 |
| 1940.... | 13 | 10 | 6 | 5 | 34 |
| 1941.... | 8 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 20 |
| 1942.... | 12 | 10 | 5 | 1 | 28 |
| 1943.... | 22 | 13 | 5 | 5 | 45 |
| 1944.... | 8 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 25 |
| 1945.... | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 24 |
| 1946.... | 16 | 12 | 7 | 2 | 37 |
| 1947.... | 18 | 12 | 8 | 3 | 41 |
| 1948.... | 15 | 13 | 1 | 4 | 33 |
| 1949.... | 17 | 13 | 7 | 3 | 40 |
| 1950.... | 21 | 16 | 1 | 3 | 41 |
| 1951.... | 21 | 14 | 3 | 7 | 45 |
| 1952.... | 22 | 16 | 2 | 1 | 41 |
| 1953.... | 15 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 30 |

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1953

| QUARTER ENDED | Number of Cases on Register at Commencement of Quarter | | Number of Cases Notified for the First Time | | Number of Cases Removed from Register in a Preceding Quarter which have been restored to the Register during the Quarter | | Number of Cases Removed from Register | | Number of Cases Remaining on Register at end of Quarter | |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|---|---------------|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary |
| March 31st, 1953— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 89 | 9 | 4 | 1 | .... | .... | 3 | .... | 90 | 10 |
| Females | 64 | 9 | 1 | 2 | .... | 1 | 1 | .... | 64 | 12 |
| June 30th, 1953— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 90 | 10 | 3 | .... | .... | .... | 2 | .... | 91 | 10 |
| Females | 64 | 12 | 5 | .... | .... | .... | 2 | 1 | 67 | 11 |
| September 30th, 1953— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 91 | 10 | 9 | 2 | 1 | .... | 2 | .... | 99 | 12 |
| Females | 67 | 11 | 4 | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 71 | 11 |
| December 31st, 1953— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Males | 99 | 12 | 5 | .... | .... | .... | 2 | .... | 102 | 12 |
| Females | 71 | 11 | 10 | 2 | 1 | .... | 2 | .... | 80 | 13 |

NOTE.—Included under Column 2 are inward transfers from other districts as follows : First Quarter, 1 Male Pulmonary ; Second Quarter, 3 Female Pulmonary ; Third Quarter, 4 Male Pulmonary and 1 Female Pulmonary ; Fourth Quarter, 1 Male Pulmonary, 7 Female Pulmonary, and 1 Female Non-Pulmonary

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ended December 31st, 1953

To Dr. Madge Hooper.

DEAR MADAM,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report on matters relating to environmental hygiene within the district for the year ended December 31st, 1953.

HOUSING.

The inspection of houses for disrepair and revisits to ascertain if repairs have been effected continue to account for the greater part of the work done by the Sanitary Officers. It will be seen from the tables on housing in the statistical section of the Report that a substantial number of defects have been remedied, resulting in 108 houses being "made fit" after informal action and 25 after Statutory Notices had been served. As in the previous year, it was not necessary to institute legal proceedings, although in a few cases a considerable period of time elapsed between the serving of an informal notice and the necessary work being completed.

The number of houses closed increased from three in 1952 to seven in 1953, and 14 houses in one row were demolished.

No action in connection with the Clearance Areas was commenced during the year. It is hoped progress in this direction will be made in 1954, and a table showing houses suitable for such treatment is again included.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied to the district by Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and as in previous years has been satisfactory as regards quality and quantity.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year the use of 12 pail closets and four privies was discontinued, leaving 11 pail closets and 30 privies to be dealt with. The reduction in the number of pail closets was due to the provision of the water carriage system at Westerhope schools, the sewage being disposed of by means of an electrically-operated pumping system connected to the main drainage in Westerhope village.

The conversion of the pail closets at the schools has been a matter of concern to successive Sanitary Officers and Health Committees over the past 20 years, and it is gratifying to know that the water carriage system has been eventually installed.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE.

PERSONNEL.

During the year F. Scott, tip attendant retired. There are now four drivers, 12 bin-lifters, including three chargemen, two tip attendants, and one salvage baler, together with two men engaged partly on refuse collection and partly on salvage, all under the supervision of the general foreman, who also controls men employed by the Surveyor.

VEHICLES.

The fleet comprises four vehicles, three Karrier Bamtoms and one Karrier C.K.3. Maintenance costs on the vehicles purchased in 1943 and 1944 are now very heavy, and their replacement by new vehicles is recommended.

COLLECTION DISTRICTS.

Some readjustments of collection districts were required owing to new housing developments on the East and West Denton and Copperas Estates, where 463 houses had been built by the end of the year. The "spare" freighter had to assist the regular freighters on one day each week during the latter part of the year to cope with the increased number of bins.

DISPOSAL.

Arrangements were made for the use of a privately-controlled tip at Bell's Close after the retirement of one of the tip attendants, but this did not prove entirely satisfactory, and was soon discontinued. A larger volume of refuse was consequently disposed of at Blucher tip, and this, together with the increasing quantities of combustible material placed in dustbins, resulted in trouble from fire arising on the tip, which necessitated greater use of covering material.

SALVAGE.

The amount of paper collected increased over previous years, but there is still too much salvage put into the dustbin. The bonus scheme for the refuse personnel continued in operation, but the amount paid out was comparatively small, expenditure being relatively high.

KITCHEN WASTE.

The collection of kitchen waste, discontinued in 1949, was recommenced this year, some 250 individual containers being distributed in the Lemington district. After a few months the concentrator plant at Newcastle closed down and other arrangements for disposal had to be made. Tenders were invited from the larger pig-keepers in the district, and a better price was obtained than that we had been obliged to accept when under "direction" from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION.

FOOD PREMISES.

Inspections of food premises were almost identical in number with the 200 made in the previous year, and again conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

Structural improvements in which plastic materials and aluminium were used wherever possible were carried out in several instances and utensils replaced where necessary without recourse to statutory action.

Details of the number of registered premises and number of visits are given in the statistical section of the report.

ICE-CREAM REGULATIONS.

As in previous years the two ice-cream factories in the district were maintained in a thoroughly hygienic manner and one sample taken from each came within Grade 1 of the Provisional Grades.

MILK SAMPLES.

Sixteen samples of milk were submitted for examination by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests, all were satisfactory.

All the milk produced in the district is subjected to heat treatment at plants in Newcastle.

MUSSELS.

In July, samples of imported frozen mussels were submitted for bacteriological examination and were found to contain both faecal and non-faecal B. Coli. The local distributor ceased handling the mussels, and his wholesaler and the Health Department of the district, in which the merchant's premises were situated, were notified. As a result, distribution of this particular brand of mussels ceased throughout Northumberland.

UNSOUND FOOD.

A list of unsound food, condemned and surrendered, is given on page 30. Condemned carcase meat, after staining, is sent to a firm of glue manufacturers for disposal. Canned goods, &c., are disposed of by burying on the refuse tips under the supervision of the general foreman.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of visits in connection with cases of infectious disease decreased from 1,100 in 1952 to 350, largely due to a welcome decline in the number of cases of dysentery.

The number of rooms disinfected, i.e., 86 was somewhat less than in the previous year. Co-operation with the Chest Clinic, Elswick Road, Newcastle, in connection with room disinfections after removal of tuberculous persons continues to be very satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Ninety inspections of factories were made, and in seven cases only was it necessary to have defects remedied.

RODENT CONTROL.

Two further sewer maintenance treatments were carried out, and once more it was shown that infestation was negligible.

Surface treatments were effected as follows ; co-operation with the occupiers of business premises being satisfactory :—

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------------|
| Business Premises.... | .... | .... | .... | 78 |
| Private Premises .... | .... | .... | .... | 55 |
| Council Premises | .... | .... | .... | 97 |
| Total | .... | .... | .... | <u>230</u> |

CONCLUSION.

Mrs. Pigg resigned in September after some seven years as clerk in the department, during which time she performed her duties in a highly efficient manner. Miss Smith, the new clerk did not commence work until November, thus necessitating Mr. Hatton or myself spending a greater proportion of our time on office work than normally, with a consequent reduction in the number of inspections carried out.

As in previous years I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance afforded by the other officers of the Council.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN CORNEY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT.

| <i>Number and Nature of Inspections :</i> | | | | | VISITS |
|---|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Housing (including revisits) | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1,046 |
| Overcrowding | .... | .... | .... | .... | 7 |
| Miscellaneous | .... | .... | .... | .... | 74 |
| Infectious Disease.... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 350 |
| Food and Drugs Act | .... | .... | .... | .... | 171 |
| Shops Act | .... | .... | .... | .... | 18 |
| Factories Act | .... | .... | .... | .... | 90 |
| Dairies | .... | .... | .... | .... | 22 |
| Drainage | .... | .... | .... | .... | 83 |
| Insanitary Premises | .... | .... | .... | .... | 14 |
| Keeping of Animals | .... | .... | .... | .... | 27 |
| Nuisances | .... | .... | .... | .... | 49 |
| Disinfestations | .... | .... | .... | .... | 53 |
| Offensive Accumulation | .... | .... | .... | .... | 11 |
| Rooms Disinfected | .... | .... | .... | .... | 86 |
| Privy Conversion | .... | .... | .... | .... | 7 |
| National Assistance Act | .... | .... | .... | .... | 6 |
| Ice-cream Factories | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| | | | | | 2,117 |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal | .... | .... | .... | .... | 142 |
| | | | | | 2,259 |

Defects Remedied :

| | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|----|
| Brickwork re-pointed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 30 |
| Burst pipes repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 18 |
| Chimney stacks secured | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Choked drains cleared | .... | .... | .... | .... | 15 |
| Dampness remedied | .... | .... | .... | .... | 21 |
| Doors overhauled | .... | .... | .... | .... | 19 |
| Dustbins provided | .... | .... | .... | .... | 35 |
| Eaves, gutters, and downspouts repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 18 |
| Firebars renewed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Kitchen range repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| Plasterwork repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 44 |
| Roofs overhauled | .... | .... | .... | .... | 41 |
| Scullery bench renewed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Soil pipe repaired.... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Sinks renewed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Smoke nuisance remedied | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Steps secured | .... | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Waste pipes repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| W.C. apparatus overhauled | .... | .... | .... | .... | 33 |
| Wood flooring renewed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 14 |
| Window cords repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 7 |
| Yard surface repaired | .... | .... | .... | .... | 6 |
| W.C. provided in place of pail closet | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Premises cleansed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Gulley provided | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Offensive accumulation removed | .... | .... | .... | .... | 1 |

HOUSING.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1953.

| NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR | With State Assistance | Unaided | TOTAL |
|---|-----------------------------|---------|-------|
| (a) By Local Authority | 57 | .... | 57 |
| (b) By and other Housing Authority | 391 | .... | 391 |
| (c) By Private Persons .... | .... | 15 | 15 |

Total number of Inhabited Houses in District, 6,717

1. CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES.

A. *Formal Action*—

(1) Number of houses demolished during 1953 as a
result of Clearance Schemes or other formal
action —

Number of houses included in above which were
from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas —

(2) Number of houses *closed* but not demolished as a
result of formal action —

B. *Informal Action*—

(1) Number of houses permanently dis-
continued as dwellings as a result
of informal action and not included
above Demolished 14
Closed 7

2. RECONDITIONING AND REPAIR.

Number of houses made fit during 1953 by procedure under either
Housing or Public Health Acts—

(a) As a result of informal action 108
(b) By owners as a result of statutory action 25
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners —

3. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS HOUSING ACT, 1949.

| | Number of Separate Houses | | | |
|--|------------------------------|------|------|-----|
| (a) Applications submitted to Local Authority during year.... | | | | 14 |
| (b) Applications rejected by Local Authority | | | | Nil |
| (c) Applications forwarded to Ministry | | | | 14 |
| (d) Applications rejected by Ministry | | | | 1 |
| (e) Applications approved | | | | 23 |
| (f) Total number of applications approved in area since inception of scheme | | | | 23 |

In addition, the Council has carried out improvements to 33 Council houses under Sections 15 and 20 of Housing Act, 1949.

HOUSING.

LIST OF PROPERTIES IN THE DISTRICT WHICH REQUIRE TO BE DEALT WITH UNDER CLEARANCE AREA PROCEDURE.

“ A ” at an early date :

THROCKLEY—

| Location | Number of Houses to be Demolished | | | | Remarks |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|------|------|----|---|
| Bank Top | | | | 44 | Confirmed Clearance Area, 1938 — 38 houses still occupied |
| Elm Street | | | | 26 | |
| Beech Street | | | | 19 | |
| Sycamore Street | | | | 26 | |
| Laurel Street | | | | 20 | |
| Maple Street | | | | 26 | |
| Ash Street East | | | | 5 | One unoccupied |

NORTH WALBOTTLE—

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|----|-----------------|
| Coronation and Chapel Rows | | 42 | Nine unoccupied |
|----------------------------|------|----|-----------------|

WALBOTTLE—

| | | | |
|--|------|----|----------------|
| The Green, Low Square, School Bank, Queen's Row | | 23 | Two unoccupied |
|--|------|----|----------------|

BLUCHER—

| | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|--|
| Cottages in Pit Yard | .... | 4 | |
| <i>Carried forward</i> | .... | 235 | |

| Location | Number of Houses to be Demolished | | | | Remarks |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------|------|------------|--|
| <i>Brought forward</i> 235 | | | | | |
| NEWBURN— | | | | | |
| Fireman's Row | | | | 13 | Confirmed Clearance Area, 1939—houses still occupied |
| Northumberland Terrace | | | | 11 | |
| Albert Terrace | | | | 17 | |
| Victoria Terrace | | | | 19 | |
| BELL'S CLOSE— | | | | | |
| Pit Bank and Paper Mill Cottages | | | | 12 | |
| | | | | <u>307</u> | |
| | | | | 10 | Individual unfit houses |
| <i>“ B ” at a later date :</i> | | | | | |
| THROCKLEY— | | | | | |
| Ash Street | | | | 15 | |
| Mount Pleasant | | | | 68 | |
| Pit Cottages | | | | 26 | |
| NORTH WALBOTTLE— | | | | | |
| North View | | | | 18 | |
| BELL'S CLOSE— | | | | | |
| Dene View | | | | 9 | |
| LEMINGTON— | | | | | |
| Lloyd Street | | | | 21 | |
| Stanley Street | | | | 41 | |
| Union Street | | | | 43 | |
| WESTERHOPE— | | | | | |
| Denton Grove | | | | 18 | |
| Thomas Street | | | | 16 | |
| James Street | | | | 8 | |
| West Avenue | | | | 13 | |
| | | | | <u>296</u> | |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES | | | | | 613 |

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. *INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to Health.*—

| PREMISES | Number on Register. | NUMBER OF | | |
|--|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by L.A. .. | 4 | 16 | 1 | .. |
| (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. | 39 | 70 | .. | .. |
| (3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers' premises) | 8 | 4 | .. | .. |
| TOTAL | 51 | 90 | 1 | .. |

2. *Cases in which DEFECTS were found.*—

| PARTICULARS | Found | Remedied | Referred by H.M. Inspector |
|---|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) | 2 | .. | 1 |
| Overcrowding (S.2.) | .. | .. | .. |
| Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) | .. | .. | .. |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) | .. | .. | .. |
| Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.) | .. | .. | .. |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)— | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | .. | .. | .. |
| (b) Unsuitable or Defective | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| (c) Not Separate for Sexes | .. | .. | .. |
| Other Offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork) | .. | .. | .. |
| TOTAL | 7 | 4 | 2 |

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

| OUTWORK | No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(L) (c) |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Nets, other than Wire Nets | 1 |
| Textile Weaving | 1 |
| TOTAL | 2 |

FOOD INSPECTIONS.

| UN SOUND FOOD | | | | | | SURRENDERED |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------------|
| Beef | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 101 lb. |
| Lamb and Mutton | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 157 lb. |
| Pork | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 80 lb. |
| Pressed Beef | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 19 lb. |
| Sausage | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 52 lb. |
| Cake | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 16 lb. |
| Canned Food | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 486 tins |
| Fruit Puddings | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 13 dozen |
| Oatcakes | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 5 packets |
| Beef Paste | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 jars |

MILK REGULATIONS, 1949.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|----|
| Number of Registered Dairies | .... | .... | .... | 4 |
| Number of Registered Distributors | .... | .... | .... | 32 |

ICE-CREAM PREMISES.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Number on Register at commencement of year.... | 39 |
| Number on Register at end of year | 39 |

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|------|---|
| Number re-registered during year | | | 4 |
|----------------------------------|------|------|---|

FOOD PREMISES.

| | | |
|--|------|-----|
| Number of shops where food is handled | .... | 103 |
| Number of premises registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938— | | |
| Butcher | .... | 13 |
| Fried Fish | .... | 13 |
| Ice-cream | .... | 39 |
| Mussels | .... | 1 |
| | | 66 |
| Number of visits to registered premises | .... | 108 |

RODENT CONTROL.

Expenditure for the year ended March 31st, 1954 :

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---------------|-----|----|----|
| Wages | 134 | 13 | 7 |
| Materials.... | 10 | 19 | 4 |
| Total | 145 | 12 | 11 |
| Less Income | 56 | 12 | 0 |
| | £89 | 0 | 11 |

PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURN, 1953-54.

| Particulars | Collection | Disposal | Totals |
|--|------------|----------|--------|
| GROSS EXPENDITURE— | £ | £ | £ |
| Labour | 5,022 | 1,517 | 6,539 |
| Transport | 4,242 | 1,456 | 5,698 |
| Plant, Equipment, Land and Buildings | 177 | 113 | 290 |
| Other Items | — | — | — |
| Total Gross Expenditure | 9,441 | 3,086 | 12,527 |
| GROSS INCOME (including £42 received from other Local Authorities) | 140 | 946 | 1,086 |
| NET COST | 9,301 | 2,140 | 11,441 |
| Capital Expenditure met from Revenue.... | 1,587 | 529 | 2,116 |
| UNIT COSTS— | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| Gross Cost per Ton, Labour only.... | 10 8 | 3 3 | 13 11 |
| Gross Cost per Ton, Transport only | 9 0 | 3 1 | 12 1 |
| Net Cost (all Expenditure) per Ton | 19 9 | 4 7 | 24 4 |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Net Cost per 1,000 Population | 426 | 97 | 523 |
| Net Cost per 1,000 Premises | 1,271 | 292 | 1,563 |

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Area (statute acres—land and inland water) | 4,648 acres |
| Population at June 30th, 1953 | 21,790 persons |
| Total Refuse Collected (estimated) | 9,400 tons |
| Weight (cwt.) per 1,000 Population per Day | 23 cwt. |
| Number of Premises from which Refuse is Collected | 7,292 premises |
| Premises from which Daily Collection is made | Nil |
| Average Haul (miles) by Collection Vehicle to Disposal Point (single journey) | 2 miles |
| Kerbside Collection (if practised) | Nil |
| Total Refuse Disposed of | 9,400 tons |

Methods of Disposal :

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| (a) Crude Tipping | — |
| (b) Controlled Tipping | 100 per cent. |
| (c) Direct Incineration | — |
| (d) Separation and Incineration.... | — |
| (e) Other Methods | — |

Salvage and Trade Refuse :

| Salvage— | Income | Tonnage Collected |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------------|
| | £ | Tons |
| (a) Raw Kitchen Waste | 124 | 15 |
| (b) Scrap Metal | 23 | 15 |
| (c) Waste Paper | 897 | 105 |
| (d) Other Salvage | — | — |

Totals £1,044 135

Trade Refuse Nil

